(b) if so, what are the issues referred to Law Ministry;

(c) when was each opinion sought and what are the details of opinion received;

(d) whether it is a fact that certain drug companies raised certain legal issues in regard to DPEA; and

(e) if so, what are the names of the companies and the details of legal points raised?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c) My Ministry obtained legal opinion from Department of Legal Affairs on various issues concerning administration and implementation of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1970|79|87 from time to time as a part of interministerial consultation: The issues raised include interpretation of the said Order in the context of the provisions relating to Drug Prices Equalisation Account and other provisions.

(d) and (e) In the recent past M|s. Glaxo India Limited have raised certain legal issues concerning their liability to pay to the Government following the High Court judgement. Final advice of Department of Legal Affairs on these issues is awaited.

Furnishing of Information by Drug Companies regarding import of Drugs

1290. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 713 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th March, 1990 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the new measures, drug companies are required to furnish details of bulk drugs and intermediates imported from their principals and connected sources;

(b) if so, the names of the companies which provided such information during the last two years, year-wise and what are the details of each;

(c) whether it is a fact that his Ministry have not implemented this provision of the measures;

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) what steps have been taken to implement the name?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (e) Under the new measures announced in 1986, companies manufacturing bulk drugs are required to furnish details of drug intermediates or other raw materials imported from their principals or their associate companies in order to facilitate fixation of PMP. In this regard the attention of companies was drawn through their association. However the response has not been adequate. In all new cases PMP is fixed before issue of approval letters and import of raw materials or intermediates is allowed only in case where it is absolutely necessary.

Investment in basic drug industry

1291. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 801 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th March, 1990 and state:

(a) what are the names of bulk drugs for which investment has taken place after DPCO, 1987 from basic stage;

(b) what is the investment made on each; when was each permission implemented and what was the production of each drug during 1989-90 along with the name of the producer;

(c) whether it is a fact that number of organised units have floated small scale units; and

(d) if so, the names of the units which have either direct or indirect connection with small scale drug units?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) After DPCO, 1987, a large number of industrial approvals under various schemes such as DGTD, DLR and EIR have been granted to various companies for manufacture of basic drugs. The information asked for is voluminous since details of investments made by each company in respect of each approval and production achieved by each company approval-wise is involved. Therefore time and labour involved in collection and compilation of this information will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

(c) and (d) These details are not monitored by this Ministry.

Price Control on Oxyphenylbutazone and Phenylbutazone

1292. SHRIMATI PRATHIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee did not recommend price control for Oxyphenylbutazone, and Phenylbutazone despite the fact that these drugs do not fulfil any exclusion criteria on the ground that these drugs will be withdrawn shortly by Government for human consumption;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the expert Committee commented in the supplementary report submitted in October, 1988 that these drugs are hazardous and dangerous;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the sales of these drugs are growing fast due to price decontrol; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken by his Ministry to discourage the promotion and sale till they are actually withdrawn?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) and (d) Volume of sales of drugs is not related to price control|decontrol. In fact decontrol normally results in higher prices and consequently sales should decrease. So long the drugs are not banned their sales cannot be controlled.

Commissioning of Ranganadi Project of NEEPCO

1293. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) by when the Ranganadi Project of the North-Eastern Electrical Power Corporation is likely to be commissioned;

(b) what is the present stage of the project; and

(c) whether the setting up of the same is likely to be delayed, if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (c) Ranganadi Hydro-electric Project of North-Eastern Electric Power Corporation is programmed to be completed by March, 1996. The work on infra-structure, the diversion tunnel, and the main headrace tunnel is in progress. The commissioning of the project as scheduled would depend on the availability of adequate funds for its implementation as programmed, and early issuance of forest clearance for full area of land required for the project.

Projects under North-Eastern Electrical Power Corporation

1294. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of projects at present under the North-Eastern Electrical Power Corporation;